

KARINA TOY: Hi, my name is Karina Toy, and while I work as an intern for the Wilderness Society, I am here today to share my own personal opinions. As a Seattle native, I want to first off thank the BLM for hosting these hearings in a diverse locations across the country. I also want to applaud the Department of Interior's efforts to review the Federal Coal Program which as we all know is extremely outdated. As an avid supporter of public land for legacy, it seems wrong to me that we are depending on regulations created before I was born, before email overtook sending mail via the post office, before new technology were invented and the phrase climate change became part of public and everyday vernacular. I think it's helpful to highlight my young age, but also to emphasize the fact that a lot has changed since these regulations were put in place, and it is high time that they change as well. I am an undergraduate student at the Middlebury College where I focus my studies on renewable energy across the globe. I am also a U.S. Citizen who pays taxes. This is not something that I resent, don't get me wrong, but there are some things that I feel is an important part to being a citizens and the government, taxation through representation. However, in this contract we fail to get a fair return on our tax. What the government should be doing with the money available to buy the citizens' security, social services and to look out for the land that we all share. This is why I was so furious to learn that the current coal leasing system doesn't only encourage the development of coal from a renewable technology, renewable technology that will, preserve the land for generations to come, but also that this development generates a major loss to tax base. In one city alone, taxpayers are being deprived of \$730 million per year due to this failure of the federal government. However, we taxpayers are not the only ones affected. These policies also represent a loss of government revenue that could clean up this environmental and economic for my generation and the generations after mine who cannot be here to speak have been left with. It is time to support the future and start thinking about those who come after us instead of ourselves. These are all steps in the right direction. And I thank you all so much for your work.